<u>**Amendments to the Claims**</u>:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for accessing electronic books comprising:

a file server that stores electronic books;

a controller connected to the file server for controlling access to electronic books on the file server, <u>wherein the controller retrieves a selected electronic book from the file server and sends the selected electronic book to the viewer</u>; and

a viewer adapted for connection to the controller, which viewer stores and displays electronic books, <u>wherein the viewer has a memory that stores the selected electronic book in encrypted and compressed form</u>,

wherein the viewer includes a secure microprocessor that <u>decrypts and decompresses</u> the <u>encrypted and compressed</u> electronic book only at the time of display

~~wherein the viewer is limited to receiving a determined number of electronic books at a time from the controller~~.

2-3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises software for controlling the system.

5.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller monitors data being transferred to the file server.

6.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a viewing screen.

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7.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller comprises a user interface.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein the user interface may be used to control the viewer.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller prevents the viewer from accessing more than one file server at the same time.

10-11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a catalog printer connected to the file server that is capable of printing information about electronic books stored on the file server, wherein the catalog printer is connected to the controller and titles of books are downloaded to the catalog printer.

13.   (Previously Presented) A system for accessing electronic books comprising:

a file server that stores electronic books;

a controller connected to the file server for controlling access to electronic books on the file server;

a viewer adapted for connection to the controller, which viewer stores and displays electronic books, and

a catalog printer connected to the file server that is capable of printing information about electronic books stored on the file server,

wherein the electronic books have encoded text and wherein the catalog printer cannot access the encoded text.

14.   (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the viewer uses an automated timeout sequence that erases textual data for the selected electronic books after a period of time.

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15. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a video connector that receives a signal from a distribution system, converts the signal into electronic book files, and stores the electronic book files to the file server.

16. (Currently Amended) A system for viewing electronic books retrieved from a file server comprising:

means for selecting an electronic book from the file server;

a memory that stores the selected electronic book; and

a viewer that displays the selected electronic book, wherein the memory receives the selected electronic book from the file server, and wherein the viewer is adapted for connection to the selecting means that delivers the electronic book to the viewer; and

a storage feature providing an option to a system operator for the selected electronic book to be stored in the memory:

until the electronic book is read once, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after being read once;

until a predetermined period of time has passed, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after the predetermined period of time has passed; and

permanently, wherein the electronic book is not automatically erased

wherein the viewer is limited to receiving a determined number of electronic books from the controller at a time.

17. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the selecting means is a controller that controls access to the file server.

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the controller retrieves a selected electronic book from the file server and sends the selected electronic book to the viewer.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the controller monitors data being transferred to the file server by a converter.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the controller prevents the viewer from access more than one file server at the same time.

21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the viewer uses an automated timeout sequence that erases textual data for the selected electronic books after a period of time.

23.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the file server receives electronic book files from a video connector that receives a signal from a distribution system, converts the signal into electronic book files, and stores the electronic book files to the file server.

24.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing electronic books from a vendor to a purchaser comprising:

        receiving a selection corresponding to an electronic book from a file server;

        providing an option to a system operator for the selected electronic book to be stored in a memory of a viewer:

            until the electronic book is read once, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after being read once;

            until a predetermined period of time has passed, wherein the electronic book is automatically erased after the predetermined period of time has passed; and

permanently, wherein the electronic book is not automatically erased;

downloading the selected book to [[a]] the viewer;

storing the selected book in [[a]] the memory of the viewer; and

~~limiting the viewer to receiving a determined number of electronic books from the controller at a time~~.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising providing a menu catalog that displays titles of the books on the file server.

26.   (Canceled)

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the step of selecting comprises using a controller to access the file server.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising connecting the viewer to a controller to access the file server.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising determining whether the viewer is connected to another file server, and if the viewer is connected to another file server, preventing the viewer from accessing the file server.

30.   (Canceled)

31.   (Previously Presented) The system for accessing electronic books of claim 1, wherein the controller is limited to downloading books to the viewer when the viewer is authorized to receive books from the file server.

32.   (Previously Presented) The system for accessing electronic books of claim 1, wherein the determined number is one of one or two.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising limiting the controller to downloading books to the viewer if the viewer is authorized to receive books from the file server.

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34-36. (Canceled)

37.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[36]] 1, wherein the secure microprocessor decrypts and decompresses decodes the encoded encrypted and compressed electronic book data page-by-page.

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